ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for correcting the refractive error in a cornea of an eye, including the steps of positioning an inlay on the surface of the cornea, the inlay having a first surface and a second surface, and the second surface being adjacent the surface of the cornea. Energy is applied to the inlay to ablate a portion of the first surface of the inlay by an amount adapted to correct the refractive error in the eye. The inlay is removed from the surface of the cornea, and the cornea is separated into a first corneal surface and a second corneal surface, the first corneal surface facing in a posterior direction of the eye and the second corneal surface facing in an anterior surface of the eye. The inlay is then positioned adjacent at least one of the first corneal surface and the second corneal surface.